

TOWN OF WILTON  
SELECTMEN'S MINUTES

Date: February 1, 2016  
Time: 6:30 P.M.  
Place: Town Office  
Present: Selectmen Kermit R. Williams and William F. Condra. Recording Secretary Pamela Atwood. Chairman Richard E. Swanson was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Selectman Williams.

Resident Victoria Bullard attended the meeting to discuss a problem she encountered with getting her property taxes paid. There were a series of events which led to her mortgage company increasing her escrow by hundreds of dollars. She has been working with the Tax Collector to get the information corrected. She came to the Selectmen and asked for their help to get this situation taken care of. There was a discussion between the Selectmen and Administrative Assistant Pam Atwood regarding what took place to cause the delay Victoria was experiencing. Tax Collector Jane Farrell wrote a letter to the mortgage company and Pam was asked to watch the bank to see when the check clears.

Deputy Fire Chief Jim Cutler and Assistant Fire Chief Ron Caswell attended the meeting to give the Selectmen an update on Fire Chief Ray Dick's condition. They stated that during Ray's absence Jim will handle the day to day operations of the Fire Department. Jim and Ron Caswell will handle things. The Selectmen said that the Town is in good hands and to wish a speedy recovery to Ray

**Public Comment:**

There were no public comments.

Budget Committee member Dawn Tuomala was next to discuss the budget updates. She gave them updates on the expense side and then asked the Board to look at the revenue figures. They went through the revenue items and made changes to some items.

Next, she moved on to the Warrant Articles. She asked if the Board would like to move article 18, the Operating Budget total amount to the beginning of the list so that when the most people are at Town Meeting, this article can get voted on. Selectman Williams doesn't think you can do that. He stated that the Selectmen get to define that and he would like to speak to DRA first; Selectman Condra agrees. Harry Dailey said that he had researched it, and Wilton is one of the few towns that put it at the end. Kermit will talk to DRA and they will wait until Chairman Swanson is present to make a decision.

They spoke about pellet furnace Warrant Article and the bridge. Dawn stated that she made the changes requested by Attorney Little. Selectman Condra asked about the Town Administrator Warrant Article. He thinks the wording is deceiving. He does not think it is fair to put in only half the cost. Selectman Williams stated that they don't know the cost yet. Selectman Condra wants to see the potential wording in the Warrant Article, to tell the voters what is intended. They discussed the wording of article number 19 and the Land Use Change Tax article. Dawn must post the articles by the week of February 16<sup>th</sup>. Bill Condra will attend the Tuesday Budget Committee meeting.

Next, Treasurer Jerry Greene was on the agenda to follow up on last week's meeting regarding the Sewer Department's balance. He believes their balance is in the negative. Selectman Williams spoke to our

Auditor, Tamar Roberts about doing an audit of the Sewer Department. She will do it for \$500.00. Jerry stated that the Town reports are audited annually so it would be simple to look at income and expenses for sewer for as far back as they want to go. Selectman Williams said they felt some numbers had not been properly applied. Jerry agreed that it would be fine to have Tamar do the audit they wanted. There was a discussion about what amount the Sewer Department owed and how many years they needed to look back. Selectman Condra stated that the number in the motion was to go back 15 years. Jerry's point is that if you are going to distrust the Town Report then any numbers you change affect something else. Selectman Williams said that the current assets are supposed to be accurate to the penny. Jerry said the fund for the Water or Sewer is exactly that; separate and that DRA is fine with the way we do it. He went on to explain that it doesn't mean that the checking account is the "fund". The balance is always there and we are *not* comingling funds. Selectman Williams feels if we lend them money we are comingling funds or if we lapse their surplus into fund balance. The mechanism is supposed to be that their money is kept separate. Jerry stated that the request to encumber funds is what brought this all up. First, of all they don't have to encumber and second they don't have the money. There was further discussion about how the Sewer Commission has had losses for three out of five years. Jerry asked the Board what line item they envisioned charging the Town's portion of this audit to. Selectman Williams recommends accepting Tamar's offer and pass this news onto the Sewer Commission and engage in the process if they agree. Selectman Condra agrees saying we are obligated to confirm what they owe and this will put that to rest. **Motion:** Selectman Williams moves to accept the offer from Roberts and Greene for an audit back to 2008 of the Sewer fund and that we communicate this with the Sewer Commissioners that this is what has been proposed, and if they agree we will proceed. Selectman Condra seconds. A unanimous vote followed. Motion passes.

Selectman Williams thinks it makes sense to use Granite Hill Municipal Services for the 2016 Statistical Update. Selectman Condra agrees saying that Todd has been our Assessor for 10 years.

**Motion:** Selectman Condra moves to use the contract proposal submitted by Todd Haywood for the Statistical Update. Selectman Williams seconds. A unanimous vote followed. Motion carries.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 P.M. by Selectman Condra, seconded by Selectman Williams, followed by a vote with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted;



Pamela L. Atwood,  
Recording Secretary

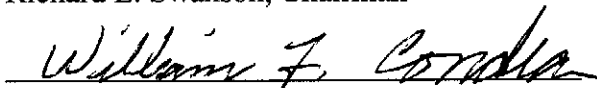


---

Richard E. Swanson, Chairman

---

Kermit R. Williams



William F. Condra

---

2-15-16  
Date Signed